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General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Contents for Week of November 23, 1931 Vol. X No. 20

- 1. All Roads Lead to the Thanksgiving Dinner Table.
- 2. The Solomon Islands, Where It Is Safer To Let the Native Go First.
- 3. How the National Capital Reflects Nation's Growth.
- 4. Georgetown, Capital of British Guiana, Marks Centennial.
- 5. Albania, from Horses to Horsepower in a Decade.



@ Photograph by R. R. Sallows

A TABLEAU REPEATED ON MANY AN AMERICAN FARM THIS WEEK

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All Roads Lead to the Thanksgiving Dinner Table

THANKSGIVING DAY, which has been observed since the first Pilgrim harvest in 1621, is an American holiday distinguished by religious services, football, family reunions and feasting. President Lincoln set aside the last Thursday in November as a day of national thanksgiving in 1864, and since that time each President has followed Lincoln's choice of date.

Thanksgiving Day may mean that only the United States and its possessions halt work on November's last Thursday, but the American Thanksgiving dinner

table to-day draws upon the far places of the earth.

Gastronomic Trip around the World

The holiday feast of the present age is the fulfillment of many miracles of transportation by land, water and air; of devices which keep food palatable with artificial heat and cold; moisture and dryness.

The ideal Thanksgiving feast could begin with appetizers—clam juice from Maryland or New England, olives from Spain, pickles from Michigan, anchovies from France, caviar from Soviet Russia, and fancy biscuits from England.

The first course might include grapefruit from Florida, oysters from Chesapeake Bay, pepper sauce from Louisiana, horse-radish from Pennsylvania, and tomato soup from New Jersey gardens. On the sidelines are salt from New York State, pepper from Singapore, Straits Settlements, and sugar from Cuba.

In the stellar rôle we would certainly find roast turkey, which, despite a suggestion of the Near East in its name, is a native North American bird. Now domesticated in nearly every State our pièce de résistance is likely to be the least traveled part of the meal. Texas, however, raises many more turkeys than its great population can consume, and perhaps the one on our epicure's dinner table has traveled thousands of miles in a refrigerator car from the Lone Star State.

The turkey dressing may be made up of bread made from Kansas wheat, cloves from Zanzibar, sage from Oklahoma, onions from Colorado, chestnuts from Virginia, and allspice from the West Indies. Other supporting rôles during the turkey course are cranberries from New Jersey or Cape Cod, tomatoes from Maryland, white potatoes from Maine, sweet potatoes from North Carolina, turnips and carrots from Delaware or Ohio, rice from China or Arkansas, butter from Wisconsin or New York State, and rolls from Minneapolis flour and middle western wheat, covered with caraway seeds from Asia Minor.

Dessert the Most Traveled

Next comes the salad, and, if one may hazard a guess at the contents of a salad, it contains New Jersey lettuce, Italian olive oil, Pennsylvania eggs, Virginia vinegar, English mustard, Hawaiian pineapple, Sicilian cherries, Mexican

peppers, California oranges and Honduran bananas.

The dessert course is the most traveled group of all. Pumpkin pie draws its principal ingredient from the vines of Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, and New England, but the rest of it must come from more distant parts. There is cinnamon from Ceylon, ginger from Jamaica, nutneg from the Dutch East Indies, and in the crust is lard from Nebraska or Iowa hogs. If mince pie offers a competing attraction there will be citron from Persia or Florida, currants from Greece, raisins from Turkey and apples from Oregon, New York State, or Virginia. Serve the mince Bulletin No. 1, November 23, 1931 (over).



IT LOOKS LIKE A TENT, BUT IT IS MERELY THE MATERIAL NEEDED FOR A PAIR OF WOMEN'S TROUSERS IN ALBANIA

Ninety square feet of cloth are used to make only part of the well-dressed Albanian woman's wardrobe (compared to 27 square feet for the average American woman's dress). But the Albanian woman can cut down her trousers to clothe her six small children (See Bulletin No. 5).

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The Solomon Islands, Where It Is Safer To Let the Native Go First

THE Solomon Islands, in the south Pacific, where an earthquake recently took a toll of fifty lives, have long had the blackest of reputations because of the ferocity of their native inhabitants. The islands were given their present name by their Spanish discoverer because of their supposed richness in gold, but the "gold" turned out to be worthless iron pyrites, and a subsequent French visitor called them "The Land of Assassins."

A Dark, Kinky-Haired Race

Civilization and Christianity have never made any marked impress on the Solomon Islanders. British law has been observed to a certain extent because of fear; but little time elapses in any of the island communities without a murder.

The natives are Melanesians, much blacker than the light-colored Polynesians of Samoa and the Marquesas. The typical Solomon Islander has kinky, black hair, but in many cases it has been covered with a lime paste made from coral until it has been bleached to a pinkish tan.

Many of the men have sinister expressions and they seem to have a veritable instinct to kill. As one visitor phrased their attitude: every stranger is an enemy, and it is, of course, a virtue to kill enemies.

There has been no cohesion among the people. In the old days head-hunting was the chief combined occupation and sport of the adult males. Any near-by village was a fair source of loot. If a more ambitious expedition was desired the warriors climbed into their war canoes, visited a neighboring island, and if successful came back with their boats loaded with the heads of men, women and children. These were hung up in the community "club house" or in the canoe houses (see illustration, next page).

Irresistible Desire To Kill

British control has about put an end to head-hunting, but the desire to kill remains and crops out in miscellaneous murders. The favorite method of attack has always been to spring upon the victim from behind and finish him off before he knows what is afoot.

The first rule of conduct a newly-arrived white man learns in the Solomons is never to allow a native to walk behind him. Instances are on record where trusted natives have begged their white benefactors not to walk in front of them while on the trail. The temptation to strike, they assert, is almost irresistible.

The Solomons, 900 miles northeast of Australia, are among the most remote of the Pacific Islands; yet save for the Ladrones, and perhaps the Marshalls, they were the earliest found by Europeans. They were discovered, strangely, from Peru, where adventurers, thirsting for more gold, heard rumors of a continent close by to the west.

The expedition, under Medana, sailed in 1567, and managed like the expedition of Magellan, to cross the vast Pacific without finding any of the many im-

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pie a la mode, and the ice cream adds to our list Wisconsin or New York State cream, Cuban sugar, and Ecuadorean or Madagascar vanilla, or Mexican chocolate.

The nut bowl is a common rendezvous for tidbits from many nations. Among those likely to be represented are: Brazil, France, Italy, Rumania, China, Spain, Morocco and the West Indies. California adds almonds; Georgia and Florida pecans; Virginia and North Carolina peanuts; and Vermont and New Hampshire the American black walnut.

Coffee from Brazil, figs from Asia Minor, dates from Iraq, cheese from Switzerland, and cigars from Havana or San Juan may top off the meal. The candy dish represents Santo Domingo chocolate, Indiana peppermint, Syrian pistachio, Vermont maple syrup, West Indian lime and Connecticut grape flavors.

Perhaps the only thing connected with such a Thanksgiving dinner which has not been mentioned is the bicarbonate of soda from Michigan limestone, for the attack of indigestion which inevitably would follow.

Note: Back of the foods on our dinner tables are many fascinating and adventurous stories. See "Fowl of Forest and Stream Tamed by Man," March, 1930, National Geographic Magasine; "Races of Domestic Fowls," April, 1927; "Gigantic Brazil and Its Glittering Capital," December, 1930; "Louisiana, Land of Perpetual Romance," April, 1930; "Into Primeval Papua by Seaplane, Seeking a Disease-Resisting Sugar Cane," September, 1929; "Virginia, a Commonwealth That Has Come Back," April, 1929; "Pathfinder of the East," November, 1927; "Singapore, Crossroads of the East," March, 1926; "Round about Bogotá, a Hunt for Fruits and Plants," February, 1926; "Our Heritage of the Fresh Waters," August, 1923; "Protecting the United States from Plant Pests," August 1921; and "How the World Is Fed," January, 1916. See also "Cattle of the World," published by the National Geographic Society.

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(National Geographic Society

CLOVES COME FROM FAR-OFF ZANZIBAR, AFRICA

In the beginning of the seventeenth century that strong-flavored pistil, the clove, was the cause of many pitched battles and obstinate wars. To-day, however, the drying of cloves (see above) and their export from the little island of Zanzibar, off the east coast of Africa, is a rather humdrum business. The chief marvel is that, coming so far, they can be so cheap.

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How the National Capital Reflects Nation's Growth

HE most difficult "history" to write, and by far the most interesting, is that of one's own time. What would we not give, for instance, for a complete description, illustrated with good photographs, of our National Capital written 100 years ago?

"Washington Through the Years," a narrative of the growth and present activities in the Nation's Capital, in the National Geographic Magazine for November, 1931, is a modern contribution to "living history." In a 102-page illustrated article Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor, President of the National Geographic Society, traces the development of Washington and its many-sided life from the time when a packet boat brought the meager Federal furniture, archives and personnel here in 1800, to the present day when the city has become a national and world center of science, education, politics and culture.

Dr. Grosvenor shows how the expansion of national territory and the country's progress have been reflected in the progress of the National Capital until now majestic structures and improvements to cost some \$400,000,000 are rising in one of the greatest government building

developments ever undertaken by any nation.

The illustrations-67 in monochrome and 46 natural color photographs, many of them never before pictured by a color camera—constitute a complete survey of the beautiful buildings, art work, street scenes, recreations and parks of the city.

Gowns of the Presidents' Wives

The color illustrations range from flower gardens and scenes at the Zoo, through interiors such as the Louis XVI salon at the Corcoran Art Gallery, the exhibit of precious stones at the National Museum, famous doorways and tree vistas, the fountains of the reflecting pool at the Lincoln Memorial, the Agricultural Department's chrysanthemum show, churches and public buildings, and the Museum's famous collection of gowns of the wives of the Presidents.

Many aërial views, taken by Captain Albert W. Stevens, of the U. S. Army Air Corps, depict new aspects of Washington from aloft, including a noteworthy photograph wherein Alexandria, Virginia, appears in the foreground, Washington and the Potomac in the center, while beyond that Baltimore, Annapolis and Chesapeake Bay are discernible in the distance.

"To an interesting degree," he writes, "modern Washington resembles Paris. That city, as revamped by Napoleon III, was planned by Baron Haussmann. They literally tore away miles of the old buildings to create the Paris of to-day. You see the same thing going on here now, as hundreds of old buildings are destroyed, and the debris carted away from the center of the Nation's Capital.

Where Uncle Sam Touches Daily Life

How the functions of the various government bureaus touch the daily lives of the people of the entire United States-teachers, farmers, bankers, manufacturers, citizens in all walks of

life—is outlined vividly in the article.

"Think of the Interior Department, for example," Dr. Grosvenor writes. "Its vast building holds, among other things, the largest real estate business the world ever saw. It surveyed and transferred to private ownership the bulk of all the land in the United States. still controls millions of acres of public domain.'

The Department of Commerce is characterized as "the world's largest business machine." That Department, "is moving now to its new \$17,500,000 home, just southeast of the White House—one of the greatest structures ever built." It has 5 miles of corridors.

It is pointed out that the National Capital shelters one of the world's greatest specialty "Such is the plant where Uncle Sam makes his paper money, bonds, postage and other stamps. It is the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, that Doric-Roman structure on the Potomac, a mile south of the White House. In one year it makes paper money enough to plaster four rows of notes, representing \$3,945,000,000, around the Equator. It makes postage stamps enough to cover a 2,200 acre farm.

Scanning the scientific agencies of the government and the extraordinary array of private scientific and educational societies, Dr. Grosvenor points out that "Washington to-day has the largest number of scientific men gathered in any one spot of equal size in the world. In the government service alone are more than 5,000 scientists, attached to some fifty-six bureaus

and commissions."

One of the interesting phases of the article is a survey of the unique tree life of Washington, in parks, grounds of public buildings, and on the streets. In Lafayette Square alone, across the street from the White House, are 97 different kinds of trees.

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portant islands. In the Solomons they had numerous brushes with the natives, and a number of the voyagers were killed.

Islands Lost for Two Centuries

After Medana's two ships returned to New Spain, the Solomons were lost for two centuries, being rediscovered by a French expedition in 1767.

Great Britain established a protectorate over the southern islands of the Solomon group in 1893. In 1899 an agreement between Great Britain and Germany gave the two large northern islands, Bougainville and Buka, to the latter country. Since the World War these former German possessions have been administered by Australia.

The total area of the Solomon Islands is about 16,000 square miles, almost equal to the combined areas of Maryland and Delaware. The population is approximately 200,000 natives and a mere handful of whites and Asiatics. The principal products of the Solomons are coconuts, rubber, pineapples, bananas and sweet potatoes.

Note: For supplementary reading about the islands of the romantic and colorful South Seas students should consult "The Islands of the Pacific," "Nauru, the Richest Island in the South Seas," and "New Map of the Pacific," National Geographic Magazine, December, 1921. "Columbus of the Pacific," January, 1927; "The Romance of Science in Polynesia," October, 1925; and "The Dream Ship," January, 1921.

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@ Photograph by J. W. Beattie

A TAMBU-HOUSE, "CITY HALL" IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

Toward the close of the day the front of the tambu or canoe-house is a rendezvous for the natives. Here they listen to and discuss the affairs of their little world. A festival marks the completion of a new tambu-house, and formerly was accompanied by the sacrifice of a human life, the flesh being eaten and several of the bones used as decorations.

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Georgetown, Capital of British Guiana, Marks Centennial

C EORGETOWN, capital of British Guiana, is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the granting of a constitution to the sole English possession in South America.

British Guiana is one of the first overseas spots to which Englishmen migrated, and here they built one of the pioneer railways of South America. But isolation has retarded the economic development of the colony. When one says that Georgetown celebrated the centennial one practically says "the entire country" celebrated, because less than one per cent of British Guiana's 900,000 square miles is developed; the population averages just a little over three per square mile.

Restrictions for Voters

Every prospective voter in Georgetown is asked: "Have you property worth \$250; or do you pay an annual rental of \$240 or over?" An affirmative answer to at least one of these questions is required of all who exercise the franchise.

This unique law explains why Georgetown, with its 60,000 population, has only about 1,000 registered voters. To be a city councilor is even harder than to be a voter. The civic government is vested in a mayor and one councilor from each of the fourteen wards. Each councilor must possess property within the city limits worth \$5,000—or a wife whose city property approximates that amount.

British Guiana is one of the richest mineral areas in South America, although it is largely undeveloped. Up the Demerara River now an American concern works

a large bauxite (aluminum ore) deposit.

Automobiles, huge trucks, electric trams and teams of oxen form the traffic on Georgetown's wide streets, some of which have in the middle long, water-lily covered canals. The traffic on the pavements is even more varied. Turbaned Hindus, yellow Chinese, Indians from the jungles of the interior, swart Syrians, negroes, Europeans and North Americans make up the motley population.

Gayly Painted Houses

Georgetown houses are gayly painted structures, and almost all have wide green lawns, and luxuriant plants and shrubs. The usual building material in Guiana is hardwood. The timber of greenheart (see illustration, next page), wal-

laba, mora, crabwood and bullet-tree is popular.

Its Botanic Gardens are Georgetown's special pride. World-famous collections of orchids and ferns are found there, and in the numerous pools brilliantly-colored water birds bathe, and manatees (seacows) sport. The Promenade Gardens, eight acres of cool, shaded walks, are situated in a central location. Bel Air Park, a well known race track, lies but a short tram ride from the city.

City Below Sea Level

The Georgetowners are music lovers and public concerts are given almost every day. The three public bandstands are located in the Botanic Gardens, the Promenade Gardens and on the Sea Wall. Excellent shops, two large movie houses, and modern conveniences keep Georgetown abreast of the times.

As Georgetown is below sea level the inhabitants of its early days had much trouble with the encroachments of the sea and tidal river water. The city is situ-

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"In the Botanic Garden are the Oak of Confucius, grown from an acorn from the tomb of the Chinese philosopher; two Cedars of Lebanon, and the Peace Oak, commemorating the

close of the Civil War."

The famous Japanese cherry trees, gift in 1912 of the Mayor of Tokyo and his council, the first of which was planted here by Mrs. William Howard Taft, form one of the many shrines of annual visitation by thousands of Americans. More than 300,000 people enter the close of the Washington Cathedral each year.

"In vacation time school children by the hundreds of thousands flock here from all over the Union, remindful of that Children's Crusade of ancient days. They crowd the city's 77

And the limitless sightseeing possibilities of the National Capital are suggested in another paragraph. "Nobody has seen everything in the National Museum. Nobody could. There is too much. To see its 13,000,000 different specimens—at the rate of one thing a minute, working eight hours a day-would take more than 74 years."

The pictorial-descriptive survey of the Nation's Capital will go to the 1,175,000 members of the National Geographic Society whose addresses in this country duplicate the U. S. Postal Guide; while those in foreign countries—some 200,000 members—represent every literate area

in the world.

Note: See also "Washington Through the Years," National Geographic Magazine, November, 1931; "Secrets of Washington's Lure," March, 1930; "Unique Gifts of Washington to the Nation," April, 1929; "Fame's Eternal Camping Ground," November, 1928; "Mount Vernon, Home of the First Farmer of America," May, 1928; "The Capitol, Wonder Building of the World" and "The Sources of Washington's Charm," June, 1923; and "Washington, Its Beginning Lee Crowth and Its Entyters" Macch, 1915. ning, Its Growth and Its Future," March, 1915.

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THE CAPITAL'S MOST FAMOUS TREE: THE WASHINGTON ELM

Tradition says that this stately forest monarch was planted by the First President himself more than a century and a half ago. In the background is the right, or Senate, wing of the National Capitol. Although few people realize it, the Capitol faces East, turning its back on the White House, the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial and most of the rest of the city of Washington.

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Albania, from Horses to Horsepower in a Decade

THE Balkans, tinder-box of Europe, are cementing ties of friendship. At a recent Turko-Balkan conference held in Angora, Turkey's new inland capital, official recognition by Turkey of the Albanian Government of King Zog I was announced by Mustapha Kemal, President of Turkey. The conference also adopted resolutions establishing an inter-Balkan Chamber of Commerce in Istanbul and an inter-Balkan tobacco bureau at Salonika.

Recognition of Albania by Turkey brings into the limelight the newest kingdom in Europe. The world is more familiar with Albania to-day than when the historian Gibbon wrote of it as "a country within sight of Italy, which is less known than the interior of America." But Albania, not far off the beaten tourist trails, is

still one of the most secluded parts of Europe.

World War Brought Good Roads

A communication from Melville Chater to the Washington, D. C., headquarters of the National Geographic Society describes this mountainous land on the shores of the Adriatic Sea:

"Ruinous war creates, at least, roads. When in 1918 the big guns' thunder died away, Albania, which had been at once a battlefield and a military corridor, found that she had accumulated the nucleus of a well-engineered road system and a knowledge of motor transport. Thus, instead of having slowly evolved through the steam age into the gasoline era, like the rest of Europe, she has leaped from medievalism to modernism, from horses to horsepower, in a decade.

"To-day her government spends \$200,000 annually in augmenting those warborn highways. The Albanian lowlander is being stirred to road-consciousness by a law which makes him personally responsible, either in labor or money, for the upkeep of 20 feet. He was awakened, like Rip Van Winkle, to behold mail,

perishables, and building material being whisked smartly over the land.

"Korça, on the eastern frontier, which falls with Scutari, Tirana (the capital), and Gjinokastra (Argyro-Castro) into the first-line category of native towns numbering from 32,000 to 12,000 people, presents an interesting picture of Albania in transition. Modern buildings rise over ancient, cobbled alleys, and fortress-like walls guard occasionally-glimpsed flower gardens—charming family retreats, somewhat in the Eastern style. Hay mountains, rolling along on ox-drawn wains, block Main Street, to the despair of yelling chauffeurs.

Veils and Knee-High Skirts

"The Moslem quarter is orientally decorous with black-veiled women. The Christian quarter is decorative with Europe's knee-high skirts, flesh-tint stockings, and bobbed heads.

"Here is progressiveness in the form of an athletics instructor, the local representative of a countrywide system. And here is hidebound conservatism in the form of Albanian mammas, who regard any sport played in running shorts and

followed by a cold shower as a sure road to early death.

"The Korça horse market, Albania's largest, is closely packed with stamping beasts and gesticulating men. Among advanced civilizations an automobile thief may possibly get a jail sentence. In more primitive Albania, where social conditions often recall those of the pioneer West, horse stealing means sudden death.

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ated on the north coast of British Guiana where the Demerara River empties into the ocean.

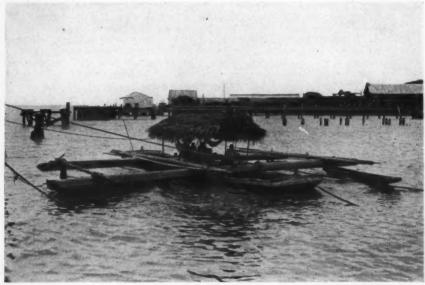
A compact Sea Wall was completed in 1882 after thirty years of building. It forms a breezy promenade for a mile and a half along the ocean to Kitty Village. There it is joined by a newer wall which parallels the coast for many miles. Where the two walls join clean sands have accumulated to form a natural playground for children.

One goes marketing in Georgetown in a huge structure of glass and iron situated in the middle of the town. Many tropical delicacies, unknown to temperate climes, may be bought there. The market has a river frontage of 300 feet and products are brought to its wharves from the rivers and creeks of Guiana, and even from Barbados.

Water Street, the main business thoroughfare, also parallels the river and the business concerns have wharves back of their buildings to speed the delivery of river merchandise.

Note: Additional references about British Guiana will be found in "Skypaths through Latin America," January, 1931, National Geographic Magazine. The little known region where British Guiana, Brazil and Venezuela meet is described in "Through Brazil to the Summit of Mount Roraima," November, 1930.

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GREENHART, A WOOD THAT SINKS LIKE IRON IN WATER, MUST BE CARRIED ON BOATS TO GEORGETOWN, BRITISH GUIANA, FOR EXPORT

This wood, used mostly in marine construction, is the best known and most important export of British Guiana timber. Six power-driven sawmills and four woodworking factories in Georgetown alone indicate the extent of this industry.

Deals in Albanian horse markets are concluded under the eye of a civic official, who

issues to the purchaser a certificate which attests to his bona fide 'buy.'

"Albania's mountain complex defies adequate description. To say that the Dalmatian Alpine system prolongs itself into ranges that form three of Albania's boundaries, and that this small kingdom, not as large as New Hampshire and Vermont together, contains numerous mountain chains, is to indicate the veriest elements of her topography.

"Yet it is an open and shut country, to borrow the native name for a certain rug pattern. This consists of rows of diamond-shaped diagrams, end to end, running across the fabric. In likening it to Albania's topography, the diamonds may be said to represent her open' spaces, while the touching apexes represent the almost shut

defiles through which one journeys from luxuriant plain to plain.

"Modern Albanians will tell you that they represent the most ancient race in southeastern Europe. Indeed, their language and tribal customs suggest remote origins. They are probably the descendants of the ancient Illyrians, who in turn derived from the Pelasgic root race, of which we catch echoes in Greek literature.

"Northward along the Adriatic, between the ports of Saranda and Vlona (Valona), runs a road of arresting interest and beauty. High over the sea, it zigzags around cliff profiles throughout 100 miles of olive groves, pine woods, sandy

beach strips—outstretched panoramas as seen from an airplane.

"Assuredly water is wealth in Albania. She has but two navigable rivers, and these are only partially and seasonally so. Wasted torrents from the mountains in winter and bone-dry stream beds in summer—these are the extremes in the water problem of a country where the creation of storage lakes could be a boon."

Note: For up-to-date information and photographs (many in color) of modern Albania see "Albania, Europe's Newest Kingdom" and "Men of the Eagle in Their Mountain Eyrie," National Geographic Magazine, February, 1931. Albania's neighbor, Greece, is described in "New Greece, the Centenarian, Forges Ahead," December, 1930. For reference about modern Turkey see: "Turkey Goes to School," January, 1929; "Summer Holidays on the Bosporus," October, 1929; "The Kizilbash Clans of Kurdistan," October, 1928; and "Seeing 3,000 years of History in Four Hours," December, 1928.

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@ Photograph by Melville Chater

ALBANIANS MAKE NEW SHOES FROM OLD TIRES

Many a worn-out American automobile tire finds its way to the Balkans, where deft shoemakers cut them up into sections and fashion them into peasant's sandals. In this manner they are destined to give many thousands more miles than the maker's guarantee.

